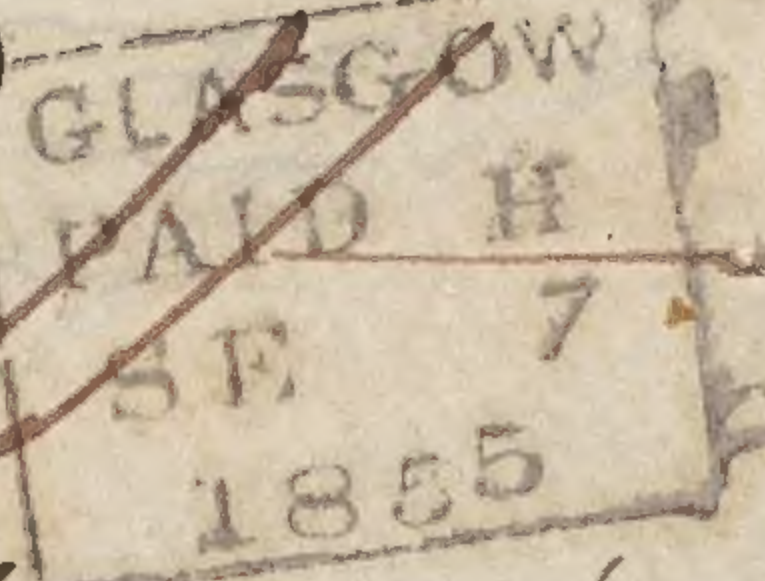


to }
Can: }

Rec. Sept. 22. 1855.
and. " 25. " (in part)
" Oct. 9. " (in full.)



Samuel May Jr.
21 Cornhill
Boston
Massachusetts
U. S. A.

ms. B. 1. 6 v. 5, p. 77

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[Faint, illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

Observatory (Glasgow)

Sept. 6 1855.

My dear May -

It seems rather desirable
that you be made aware
at hand & matters, of how the
elements are moving on this
side the water. My mind
was decided to return to
America in October. But
there are some reasons
for remaining, that have re-
cently appeared, of a rather se-
rious character.

You doubtless know
of Miss Julia Griffiths visit
to this country. And those
about the object of that
visit, than we do here. The

has brought the True Heart of
Douglass's ~~new book~~, and
is to publish an edition
here, with an Introduction
by Dr. Campbell, or some
other equally influential per-
son who will write it. The
Empire as you will see, has
already taken up the matter,
& hailed & heralded the book as
though it were a new rena-
issance, on which depended the
salvation of Israel. And
this is admirable; for no one
here as yet, has seen the book,
so as to judge of its character.
If the latter part of it, is to
be in the spirit of Douglass's
late ~~first edition~~ ^{so often delivered} oration, a large
Edition of which has been pub-

lished by our enemies here
& industriously circulated
Glasgow it surely will not
deserve, & will not receive
the approval of any friend of
the or of the Slave. But the
Empire in advance, has given
it a puff, worthy of Parnassus
& his usual horses.

The same paper has
an article on Sanatory Reform
in which Thompson says
the Carolina Slave is far
better off than the poor of
Britain!! I sent a cir-
cular to the Empire on the
Boston Barren. It was divided
and the first half was published
& inserted as an Editorial. The
next week, or week after, the
other half was published with

my name. But there was a ~~fact~~
note to atone for my name, coun-
selling the ~~interest~~ abolitionists of
the country, to go up to New Broad
Street, & ask the "Sec. Secy of the
Brit. & For. A. S. Society," what Colored
men are worthy of Charity & coun-
tenance. The ~~purloined~~ part of the
article is on the first page of
the Liberator which came this
week. By its side, is another
from the Empire also, extolling
the Editor of that paper, in man-
ner, I fear, more needed ^{by him} than
desited, altogether.

The New Broad Street Bazaar
garment, has espoused the
Rochester Bazaar cause, with
apparent good will. Russell Con-
perter & a few others, are setting

2. ~~up~~ its Machinery, wherever there
is a drop of water to turn the wheels.
The Empire & New Broad Street are
on the list of terms, and Julia
Jeffiths has no difficulty in getting
access to both. What is my re-
ception at their hands, you will
know. The poor Advocate too
is alike an alien to both.

There is a Dr. Willis in Toronto
who went from Glasgow.
Mrs. Willis is now here, and
sent a letter the other day
to Miss Paton, announcing the
coming of Julia Jeffiths, and
strongly recommending her to
favor & friendship. Probably
she will write similar letters
to other parts of Scotland where
she may be known.

MS. B. 1. 6. v. 15. p. 71

Now of the Douglass design
have not yet come to my
knowledge. But there are
a few other things to which
I will allude, have almost
changed my mind about so
soon retiring from this field.
Dr. Nichol strongly advocates
my longer stay. So would Miss
Estlin; & others I have seen; one
of that like me, they think two
years is a long time to be
separated from ones family.
I have written to Mrs. Chapman
on the subject & hope to have
a return before mailing this
letter. These straits & dilem-
mas are now among the
saddest part of my experience.
We don't care to make open war with
any one yet. & so I hardly know what to do.

In Manchester there is still
a conflict - I am sure that
last year meeting of the First
of August, was a most
wicked affair - It almost
broke down the poor ladies
Barrow Committee with
it's error ~~and~~ ~~the~~ the
contracting of which was
wholly without their con-
sent or knowledge - Some
Men & Ministers, nearly bank-
rupt, many of them, in Anti
Slavery Character on Credit pro-
posed to unite with these
ladies in an Anti Slavery As-
sociation, under the Constitu-
tion of the latter. The Union
was consummated, but
the first measure of the the element

was to attempt to cut the name
& all mention of the American
Anti Slavery Society, out of the con-
stitution. This was resisted
successfully last year - but the
debt of a hundred & ten thousand
was contracted, & the last half
of it, the ladies had to pay, afterwards.

This year, the change in the
constitution, was effected. The
Secretary was a Rev. Wm Stokes
a cunning, crafty fellow, and
an. swer, a tale of thug & Jesuit.
He gravely said if the name & mention
of the Am. Society were abandoned,
the Constitution would be accepted
to those two men, & others like them
and that he could get money
from quarters when it would
be withheld, if friendship with the

American Society was proposed.
 The Movement prevailed. Then
 they invited me to give an Anti
 Slavery Address on the evening
 of the First of August. Of course
 this was promptly declined, on
 the ground of the New position
 of the Society. This brought the
 whole question up again.
 Another Meeting was called
 the ladies rallied & re-instal-
 led us as before, only that now
 they give us a double mention
 in their Constitution, and
 almost limit their action
 to cooperation with us. Then
 I was invited again to address
 the Society on the First. We had
 a small but good meeting,
 & showed the Secretary & his friends

how unimportant were
services - Stokes resigned his
office when he found he could
not control - though there is now
an attempt at reconciliation.
The ladies however will stand by the
divorce, and let the poor violators
keep out of Coventry if they can.

Stokes was an insulting fellow
to the ladies, while he held his office. He
would ignore their existence almost,
certainly their presence, in his
of proceedings - A splendid lady sec-
onded the Resolution in the Society, on
Mr. Stokes's death - He recorded it
as seconded by a Minister pres-
ent, and so it has gone over this
country & America - No one doubts
but what it was done purposely - Now
is this a solitary instance of dishonesty.

ladies are a Majority. Men
Morally, Morally, practically &
every way, but this is the way
they were treated after the
Union. Hereafter they will con-
duct their own affairs; and of
the Masculinity with to please
John Thurg, Maud J. Maud, in
the London Empire, they will
have the honor & Expense of
doing it at Widowers &
bachelors.

The War on the East is at
present the engrossing subject
that it is difficult to make Anti
Slavery heard. My efforts mostly
have respect to the Boston Ba-
nana and seem not to be with
out hopeful results. I hold some
meetings, but they are small com-

positively, though always resulting
in at least a little good. As ma-
ny new friends are added to a
requires much effort to please
the few we have, in the midst
so many temptations.

On the whole it seemed
me best to return to my home
until these late developments.
But now I think, should the
of Douglass, the twaddle of Wm
Channing, the sinuo
Empire, and the glare
of the country, all be found at
against us, as seems now likely
happen, indeed, as is already seen
it might be resetting the post
of duty, to abandon this field
at present. So I have decided to
remain at least another month, before
making my decision - In doing

This, I hope to have the approval
of my friends in America, at
least in the case, with those
here, most worthy to give counsel.

You are we make as yet no
attacks upon any one. This is the
course strongly recommended
by all here, who co-operate
with us in America. It may
become necessary, but does not
appear to be so yet.

As to Channing, he is here
at home and so of no
consequence for good, any
where. But when he defend-
ed Dr. Farnett in a large body
of Unitarian Ministers, and
represented him as on the
way towards a genuine Aboli-
tionist, & would not allow the least

verbal censure of him by so true
a man as Mr Carpenter of Welling.
it seemed to me time to interpose.
My article had to be mild & concise
or it would not have been accepted.
As it was, it has done good.
I trust you saw it in the London
Enquirer.

In a word, you can see what
I am doing, by the Advocate, &
this letter. My mission is twofold =
to labor directly, as much as health
and other circumstances will al-
low - & secondly, to watch the mo-
tions of the enemy, and be ready to
act as occasions may require.
I would much rather return
home; but just at present there
seem pretty good reasons for
remaining a little longer.

Some of our friends here grow
disheartened at times, and
almost despair of any good
from all our efforts. This
is more true in Ireland
than elsewhere - even Mr.
Webb doubts very much
whether my labors are of ^{any} much
value. But he is in Ireland,
and among the Irish people,
who are different, & in differ-
ent conditions from England
or Scotland. Mr. Webb of all
others, is the man to have
charge of the Advocate. But it
would be better for it, on ev-
ery account, were its location
more central, & in the midst
too, of the events & circumstan-
ces of which it is to take cognizance.

Every thing done, is done in
any place rather than Ireland;
Then it ^{must be} sent to Ireland to be
published, & brought back again,
to be read. I cannot get invited
~~any place~~, or recognised in any
place on all that Island, excepting
Dublin & Belfast. And but for the
Wills & Mills, even those two places,
would also be as dead to us, as Tyne
& Sidon.

The Advocate is as
good as it can possibly be, where
it now is - but it has not the read-
ers it deserves; nor does it contain
the local matters & incidents that
would naturally flow into its columns
were it more in the midst of the
man experiences & agitations
And no other materials, could give
it on any paper, so much interest,

on make it so effective, with
 the British people. Mr & Miss
 Estlin have furnished much
 of the matter that has been
 most useful in its columns.
 And there needs that this sup-
 ply be continued now from
 some other source; and
 that source is yet to be
 discovered.

I am writing this at the
 suggestion of others, who feel
 these necessities more than
 I or any stranger can. To me
 the Advocate has ever seemed
 the very thing wanted. And I
 was not aware until recently,
 how important these considera-
 tions are to our British friends.
 It has been estimated to rise that

to assist Mr. Webb in his Editorial labors, would be a most useful occupation of my time. Should I remain here during the coming winter, and that this was one important reason which might be urged for my stay. It is a question I am very willing should be decided by others who have shown themselves so long our friends, and so worthy to be so.

Should I remain so long on this side the water, I hope to be useful employed in some way or other. My hair will not let me labor at it in times past. Head ache has been my companion since my earliest recollection. It is so still. Too much effort, a bad

cold, or any irregularity, is
to invite it. & it is most
desirable company by day
or night. My friends here
give me credit for being
industrious; but I am
not as I once was, nor as
I would gladly be now. No one
believes, even wholly recover
us from the shocks of an
attack, such as was mine at
Bristol.

Your letters are always
spells of good things to me.
You cannot write me half
so often as I should like. And
probably you feel a difficulty
at such a distance ⁱⁿ giving
me the counsels you would,
& which would be so useful to me.

But I need not trouble
 you longer. It is most cheering
 to witness the grandeur of
 your movements in America
 at the present time. That was
 a Capital Speech by Mr. Phillips
 on the First of August. On Tuesday
 P. Chase at Dartmouth he was
 super excellent. Also on Aboli-
 tionists attending our place of wor-
 ship. The Old Herald of Freedom
 will tell how faithfully Stephen
 Foster & myself proclaimed the
 doctrine in New Hampshire,
 twelve years ago.

With a brother's love to all
 who hold me in such a relation
 about the office, I subscribe with
 particular regards to your family -
 Ever & always
 Most truly yours
 Parker Pillsbury